Subject: United Nations Statistical Commission – 52nd session

Excellency,

I wish to congratulate you all on the successful conclusion of the 52nd session of the Statistical Commission.

In accordance with ECOSOC decision 2021/213 of 24 February 2021, entitled “Procedure for taking decisions of the sessional bodies and subsidiary organs of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic at the 2021 session of the Council” which authorized its sessional bodies and subsidiary organs to apply the decision-making procedure set out in ECOSOC decision 2020/205 of 3 April 2020, it is my pleasure to place the below proposals under a formal silence procedure, until 5 p.m. Wednesday 10 March 2021:

(i) adoption of the draft decisions;
(ii) adoption of the draft procedural report of the 52nd session of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2021/L.3);
(iii) election of the Bureau;
(iv) adoption of the provisional agenda (E/CN.3/2021/1);
(v) adoption of the provisional programme of work (E/CN.3/2021/L.1) and;
(vi) approval of the entities (Intergovernmental organizations (IGOs)) listed in document E/CN.3/2021/CRP.1 to participate in the session as observers.


It may be noted that at its 4th and last informal virtual meeting of the 52nd session, the Commission agreed on the draft procedural report and the draft decisions. Moreover, the above-referenced proposals on the election of the Bureau, adoption of the provisional agenda, adoption of the provisional programme of work, and approval of the entities (IGOs) to participate in the session as observers were also agreed upon through an informal silence procedure concluded on 24 February 2021.

Objections to any of the draft proposals by a Member State should be done via a letter or note verbale addressed to the Chair of the Commission. Such correspondence should be sent via email to: a.tsumura@soumu.go.jp with copy to: hooper@un.org. Please clearly indicate the title of the draft decision in the subject line of the communication.
I would like to take this opportunity to express also on behalf of the Bureau, our sincere appreciation to all delegations for their constructive engagement throughout the session. I count on the continued understanding, support and cooperation of the Commission members and sincerely hope that the Commission’s longstanding tradition of decision-making by consensus will be maintained, particularly given the extraordinary and unprecedented situation of the pandemic.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express my solidarity with Member States who are fighting COVID-19 and extend my sincere condolences for their loss.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Shigeru Kawasaki
Chair
Statistical Commission

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations, New York
ANNEX
Explanation of vote/position

Member States wishing to make an explanation of vote can address their communication to the Chair of the Statistical Commission, which can then be circulated in a subsequent letter from the Chair to all members of the Commission. Please indicate the title of the draft decision/resolution and symbol, if applicable, in the subject line of the e-mail to be sent to a.tsumur@soumu.go.jp and to the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Management (Gerard Cianciulli email: cianciulli@un.org).